

TOWN OF STONINGTON

152 Elm Street, Stonington, CT 06378

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE-SPECIAL MEETING

Monday February 22, 2021 at 5:00PM

Virtual Web Ex Meeting

Approved Minutes

**Present:** Julie Holland, Danny Oliverio, Kristin Parsons, Kit Hartford, Ayo Bryant, Annmarie Castagno-Clark, Carole Nossek, Stacy Cassata, Guest Deb Downie

**Absent:** Eric Beverly

1. **Call to order**-Meeting called to order by Julie Holland at 5pm
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Approval of Minutes**- November 2020 meeting minutes approved with a motion by Annmarie Castagno-Clark, second by Carole Nossek, All in favor.
4. **New Business**
  - a. **Correspondence**-Multiple requests have come in for additional volunteers. Julie Holland will be reaching out to them.
  - b. **Spring Plantings**-
    - i. Stillman & Westerly/Pawcatuck Bridges not to exceed \$300 for spring plantings; Plantings to be placed before Easter
    - ii. Stonington Police Department pots not to exceed \$150 for spring and summer plantings
    - iii. Pequot Trail/Route 1 Pots not to exceed \$100 for spring and \$200 for summer
    - iv. Mystic Sign Pots not to exceed \$60 for spring and summer plantings
    - v. Stonington Public Schools may need committee to volunteer for installation
  - c. **Sponsorships/Future Fundraising/Grants**-ongoing evaluation by committee, needing to maintain COVID friendly plans
  - d. **West Broad/Spring Tree plantings**- Trees will be unable to be replanted on sidewalk in front of West Broad due to ADA accommodation requirements. Eric Beverly working with Father Perkins of St Michaels and the Town to locate space on West Broad property for tree plantings.
  - e. **Stonington Beautification Signs**- Carole Nossek presented updated sign information. Signs are double sided 18"x24" that will temporarily left at project sites. Motion by Carole Nossek to approve ordering of 12 signs at \$20 a piece, with a sponsor to pay 50% of cost, leaving committee to pay for \$120. Second by Kit Hartford, All in favor.
  - f. **Future Projects for 2021-2022**- Discussion for tree planting and pollinator gardens as funds allow, also maintenance of current projects
  - g. **Town Funding for 2021-2022**- Request for \$5000 has been submitted, same as last year
5. **Old Business**
  - a. **Graffiti on Stillman Ave Bridge**-Has now been removed and is completed.
  - b. **West Broad Street School Pavers**-Pavers have been reinstalled and look great

- c. **Donahue Park projects-**
    - i. Gravel replacement pending and will be completed by the Town this spring.
    - ii. Wood on gazebo fixed
    - iii. Awaiting for update on lighting plans
    - iv. Pollinating garden to be planted as funds allow
  - d. **Volunteer Certificate of Appreciation-** Kit Hartford is working on this and will wait until allowed to meet outside to provide volunteer certificates.
  - e. **Beautification Awards/ Scarecrow Contest/ Holiday Contest-**Fall and Winter contests were successful. Kristin Parsons continuing to work with Human Services. Ongoing discussion for possible spring contest.
  - f. **Advertisement / Communication/ Stonington Beautification Signs-**Ongoing, Signs designed by Carole approved to order, email is working well, Will look to place another article in next season's Stonington Magazine, continue to use social media
6. **Comments from the public-Non**
- a. Possible recycle of Christmas trees to use as mulch in spring
  - b. Pollinator garden theme as potential spring contest
  - c. Earth Day discussion needed as it is approaching quickly
7. **7.Adjourn-**Motion to Adjourn by Annmarie Castagno-Clark, Second by Ayo Bryant, All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:54pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristin Parsons

Beautification Committee Secretary